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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum

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THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600

7 November 1962

PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
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7 November 1962

THE SITUATION IN CUBA

Photography of 5 and 6 November shows that Soviet missile equipment continues to move into port areas--Mariel, Casilda, and La Isabela--and is being loaded aboard ships. To date, photographs have shown a total of 14 missile transporters loading at Mariel and 14 loading at Casilda. Further read-out of the 5 and 6 November photography is underway.

An additional coastal defense cruise missile site was identified in photography of 4 and 5 November. The site is about 15 miles southeast of Cienfuegos in Las Villas province. It appears to be operational and includes two unrevetted, canvas-covered launchers. This is the fourth such site identified in Cuba, the others being at Santa Cruz del Norte, in Havana province; at Siguanea, on the Isle of Pines; and at Banes, in Oriente province.

No communique or official statement has been issued in Cuba on the Castro-Mikoyan talks

The Cuban side in the talks with Mikoyan has been composed of the five members now in Cuba of the key six-man Secretariat of the Integrated Revolutionary Organizations (ORI). These are Fidel and Raul Castro, first and second secretaries; Che Guevara; President Dorticos; and Emilio Aragones. The sixth participant, veteran Cuban Communist Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, is not a member of the secretariat and may be filling in for ranking old Communist Blas Roca, a secretariat member who has been in eastern Europe since early October. Foreign Minister Roa, who is not a top ORI official, has evidently been left out of the talks.

There are further indications that the Cuban military alert, in force since 22 October, is being relaxed. A broadcast in Santiago de Cuba on 6 November referred to a "partial demobilization" of the armed forces and urged all citizens of the city to greet the returning "demobilized combatants... who have gained a new victory over the threats of imperialism." The broadcast added that only those forces "necessary to halt any surprise enemy attack will remain for the time being in the defense positions of our country."

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[REDACTED]

Since the evening of 5 November, for the first time since the inception of the crisis, Havana radio has been devoting a sizable portion of its broadcasts to subjects not directly related to the crisis.

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~~TOP SECRET~~BLOC REACTION

Soviet First Deputy Premier Kosygin's Revolution Anniversary speech yesterday gave no intimation of major changes in the main lines of Soviet foreign policy as a result of Cuban developments. There were indications in the speech that Moscow will concentrate on repairing the damage to Soviet prestige caused by Khrushchev's backdown in Cuba and on restoring an image of bloc strength and solidarity before embarking on new negotiations on issues such as Berlin, disarmament and a nuclear test ban.

Defense Minister Malinovsky's order of the day charged that US actions in Cuba were a violation of the "norms of international law" and created the threat of the beginning of a thermonuclear war. But, like Kosygin, he portrayed the USSR's actions as stemming from Khrushchev's personal dedication to the preservation of peace and stated that Moscow was pursuing a policy of peaceful coexistence and the solution of all controversial questions through negotiation.

Moscow has strengthened its propaganda support of Castro's five demands. Radio commentaries beamed to Cuba say it is "imperative" that the five points be adopted in the "implementation of US guarantees" of non-aggression against Cuba. Other broadcasts say that Cuba's sovereignty "cannot be guaranteed" until the US accedes to these demands.

In Communist China mass demonstrations in support of Cuba and Castro's five demands are in their fourth day. Peiping news media have charged that some US politicians are "crying for an immediate, direct military invasion" of Cuba and Peiping radio yesterday reported that the US military buildup in Florida was being intensified.

Mikoyan has indicated that he is planning a one-day stopover in New York after leaving Havana, probably not before Saturday.

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~~TOP SECRET~~BLOC MILITARY FORCES

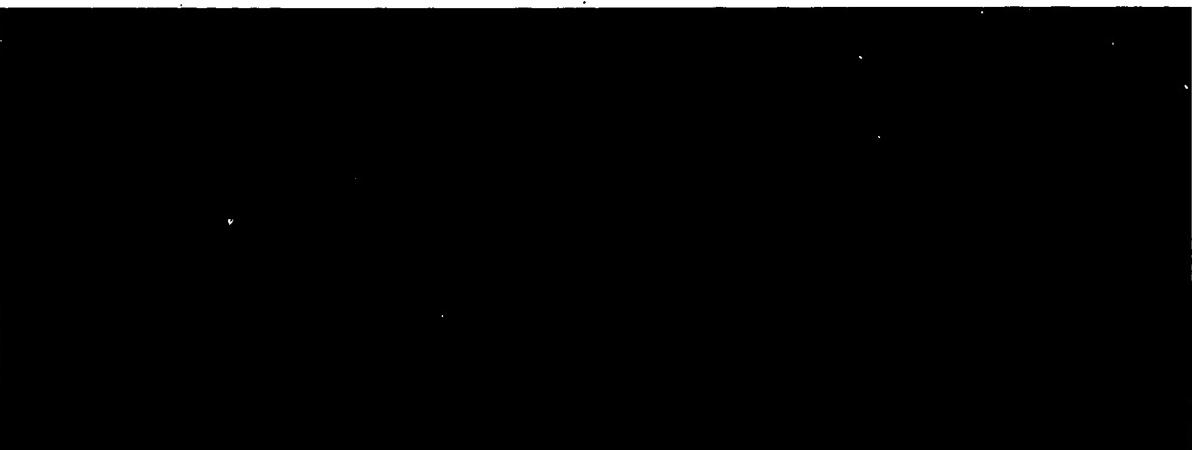
General: No significant change has been noted in the status of the major Bloc military forces.



Ground: Indications of a relaxation from alert status continue to be observed. Some East German Army and Soviet troops have been noted on pass in East Germany.

Evidence that Polish three-year conscripts are being released has been [REDACTED] in Warsaw. Two Polish mechanized divisions continue to help with the harvest.

An extensive road trip [REDACTED] through north-western and western Bohemia revealed Czech military personnel training in areas adjoining barracks and many troops on pass in Prague.

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~~TOP SECRET~~SOVIET BLOC SHIPPING TO AND FROM CUBA

At least 10 Soviet dry cargo ships are now en route to Cuba, as well as a passenger ship with more than 100 passengers aboard. None of these ships appears to be carrying military equipment. Five Soviet tankers and one satellite dry cargo ship are also on the way.

At least two, probably three, Soviet ships have departed the Cuban port of Mariel with MRBMs and/or ballistic missile equipment, according to aerial photography of 5 November [REDACTED]. Two ships--LENINSKY KOMSOMOL and FIZIK KURCHATOV--probably are loading at the south coast port of Casilda where missile equipment has been assembled. These two ships could easily carry on deck the 14 missiles observed there, plus most of the other equipment.

Three other Soviet ships are in Mariel and one is in La Isabela where they probably are loading missiles and missile equipment which has been moved to those ports.

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